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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/643,005	08/18/2003	Mark A. Bordogna	13-3-1	2974

7590 09/28/2007

Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP
Suite 205
1300 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824

EXAMINER	
MEW, KEVIN D	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2616	
MAIL DATE	**DELIVERY MODE**
09/28/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/643,005	BORDOGNA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kevin Mew	2616

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 July 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

Final Action

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's Remarks/Arguments filed on 7/19/2007 have been fully considered. Claims 1-20 are currently pending.

2. Acknowledgement is made of the amended claims 3 and 15 with respect to the claim objections set forth in the previous Office action. The corrections are acceptable and the claim objections are now withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Treadaway et al. (USP 7,002,941) in view of Connor (USP 7,061,866).

Regarding claim 1, Treadaway discloses a method for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1),

said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of packets over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network (receiving packet data over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37); and

providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract), wherein a size of said egress inter-packet gap is adjusted to compensate for said frequency offset (adjusting an inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet data packets to compensate for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53).

Treadaway does not explicitly show a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased to compensate for said frequency offset when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network and is increased to compensate for said frequency offset when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in

decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap to increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS to decrease data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased to increase the data rate at the egress local area network so as to compensate for said frequency offset when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network and is increased to decrease the data rate at the egress local area network so as to compensate for said frequency offset when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 2, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 1 above, except fails to explicitly show the method of claim 1, wherein a frequency of said ingress local area network exceeds a frequency of said egress local area network and said providing step further comprises the step of reducing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap to increase data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap will be decreased to increase the data rate at the egress local area

network so that a frequency of said ingress local area network exceeds a frequency of said egress local area network and said providing step further comprises the step of reducing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 3, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 1 above, except fails to explicitly show the method of claim 1, wherein a frequency of said egress local area network exceeds a frequency of said ingress local area network and said providing step further comprises the step of increasing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in increasing inter-frame spacing IFS to decrease data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap will be decreased to increase the data rate at the egress local area network so that said providing step further comprises the step of increasing said size of said egress inter-packet gap when a frequency of said egress local area network exceeds a frequency of said ingress local area network.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 4, Treadaway discloses the method of claim 1, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is statically configured based on said frequency offset (col. 4, lines 30-53).

Regarding claim 5, Treadaway discloses the method of claim dynamically adjusted based on a fill transport network 1, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is level of a buffer associated with an egress port of said (the size of the inter-packet gap is a level of the amount of space available in the received packet buffer, col. 4, lines 48-50).

Regarding claim 6, Treadaway discloses the method of claim 1, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is dynamically adjusted to prevent a buffer associated with an egress port of said transport network from overflowing (adjusting the size of the inter-packet gap to avoid overflowing in the receive buffer, col. 21, lines 43-54).

Regarding claim 7, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 1 above, except fails to explicitly show the method of claim 1, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting idle symbols from an extended inter-packet gap.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will

increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap to increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS to decrease data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased to increase the data rate at the egress local area network so as to compensate for said frequency offset when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network so that said size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting idle symbols/byte times from an extended inter-packet gap or by reducing the size of a inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 8, Treadaway discloses a method for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1), said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of packets over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network (receiving packet data over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37); and

providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract).

Treadaway does not explicitly show a size of said egress inter-packet gap is less than a size of said ingress inter-packet gap when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network and is greater than a size of said inter-packet gap when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap to increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS to decrease data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased to increase the data rate at the egress local area network so that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is less than a size of said ingress inter-packet gap when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network and is greater than a size of said inter-packet gap when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 9, Treadaway discloses the method of claim 8, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is statically configured based on an expected frequency offset (col. 4, lines 30-53).

Regarding claim 10, Treadaway discloses a method for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1), said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said method comprising the steps of:

buffering a plurality of packets received over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network in an egress buffer (buffering in the packet buffer for packet data received over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37);

monitoring a fill level of said egress buffer (monitoring the amount of space available in a packet buffer); and

providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless

MAN, abstract), wherein a size of said egress inter-packet gap is adjusted to compensate for said frequency offset (adjusting an inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet data packets to compensate for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal based on the amount of space available in the packet buffer, col. 4, lines 30-53).

Treadaway does not explicitly show a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased based on said fill level when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network and is increased based on said fill level when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap to increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS to decrease data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased to increase the data rate at the egress local area network so that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased based on said fill level when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network and is increased based on said fill level when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 11, Treadaway discloses the method of claim 10, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is adjusted to prevent said egress buffer from overflowing (adjusting the size of the inter-packet gap to avoid overflowing in the receive buffer, col. 21, lines 43-54).

Regarding claim 12, Treadaway discloses a method for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1), said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said method comprising the steps of:

buffering a plurality of packets received over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network in an egress buffer (buffering in the packet buffer for packet data received over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37);

writing said plurality of packets from said first egress buffer in a second egress buffer at a rate associated with said transport network (writing the packet data from the packet buffer to a packet retriever according to a second clock signal, wherein the frequency of the second clock

signal is lower than a frequency of a first clock signal) together with an inter-packet gap separating each packet (together with inter-packet gap, col. 4, lines 30-53); and

providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract).

Treadaway does not explicitly show a size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting one or more idle symbols from said inter-packet gap when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network and is increased by inserting one or more idle symbols in said inter-packet gap when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap to increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS to decrease data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased to increase the data rate at the egress local area network so as to compensate for said frequency offset when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network so that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting one or more idle symbols/byte times from said inter-packet gap when said ingress local area network is faster than

said egress local area network and is increased by inserting one or more idle symbols/byte times in said inter-packet gap when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 13, Treadaway discloses an apparatus for compensating for a frequency offset (compensating for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53) between an ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) and an egress local area network (wireless metropolitan area network, col. 4, lines 30-53 and abstract) communicating over a transport network (router/switch, Fig. 1), said ingress local area network (Fast Ethernet) employing an ingress inter-packet gap between each packet in a packet flow (employs inter-packet gap for the Fast Ethernet overhead, col. 12, lines 1-67, col. 13, lines 1-4), said apparatus comprising:

a port (terminal 100, Fig. 1) for receiving a plurality of packets over said transport network originating from said ingress local area network (receiving packet data over the wireless link originated from the Fast Ethernet, col. 4, lines 30-37); and

means (wireless link, 102, Fig. 1) for providing said plurality of received packets to said egress local area network with an egress inter-packet gap between each of said received packets (providing data packets to wireless MAN, abstract), wherein a size of said egress inter-packet gap is adjusted to compensate for said frequency offset (adjusting an inter-packet gap for the Fast

Ethernet data packets to compensate for the frequency difference between a first clock signal and a second clock signal, col. 4, lines 30-53).

Treadaway does not explicitly show a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased to compensate for said frequency offset when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network and is increased to compensate for said frequency offset when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap to increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS to decrease data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased to increase the data rate at the egress local area network so as to compensate for said frequency offset when said ingress local area network is faster than said egress local area network and is increased to decrease the data rate at the egress local area network so as to compensate for said frequency offset when said egress local area network is faster than said ingress local area network.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 14, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 13 above, except fails to explicitly show the apparatus of claim 13, wherein a frequency of said ingress local area network exceeds a frequency of said egress local area network and said means for providing further comprises means for reducing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap to increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS to decrease data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap is decreased to increase the data rate at the egress local area network so that said means for providing further comprises means for reducing said size of said egress inter-packet gap when a frequency of said ingress local area network exceeds a frequency of said egress local area network.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 15, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 13 above, except fails

to explicitly show the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said frequency of said egress local area network exceeds a frequency of said ingress local area network and wherein means for providing further comprises means for increasing said size of said egress inter-packet gap.

However, Connor teaches a method of dynamically metering packet flow in a packet switched network, which employs decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap will increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS will decrease data rate (col. 3, lines 9-12, 19-20 and col. 3, lines 49-51).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Treadaway with the teaching of Connor in decreasing inter-frame spacing IFS or inter-packet gap to increase data rate and increasing inter-frame spacing IFS to decrease data rate such that a size of said egress inter-packet gap will be increased to decrease the data rate at the egress local area network so that said means for providing further comprises means for increasing said size of said egress inter-packet gap when a frequency of said egress local area network exceeds a frequency of said ingress local area network.

The motivation to do so is to match the egress data rate to the link partner's ingress processing data rate.

Regarding claim 16, Treadaway discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is statically configured based on said frequency offset (col. 4, lines 30-53).

Regarding claim 17, Treadaway discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is dynamically adjusted based on a fill level of a buffer associated with an egress port of said transport network (the size of the inter-packet gap is dynamically adjusted based on a level of the amount of space available in the received packet buffer, col. 4, lines 48-50).

Regarding claim 18, Treadaway discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is dynamically adjusted to prevent a buffer associated with an egress port of said transport network from overflowing (adjusting the size of the inter-packet gap to avoid overflowing in the receive buffer, col. 21, lines 43-54).

Regarding claim 19, Treadaway discloses the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said egress inter-packet gap is inserted by provider equipment between said transport network and said egress local area network (inter-packet gap is inserted as overhead in the rate control logic 250 located in MAC of terminal 100, col. 12, lines 53-67, Figs. 1, 3-4; terminal 100 is between router/switch and MAN network 102, Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 20, Treadaway discloses all the aspects of claim 13 above, except fails to explicitly show the apparatus of claim 13, wherein said size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting idle symbols from an extended inter-packet gap.

However, Gavin discloses that when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than that of the receiver, the receiver would have to discard more bytes received from the

transmitter than it normally would when the system clock frequencies on both sides are the same, which means that the size of the inter-packet gaps or idle bytes will decrease because the receiver would have to discard the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps without using real or active data constituting part of a data packet (col. 1, lines 45-67, col. 2, lines 1-7). Hence, the discarding of idle bytes means the size of inter-packet gaps at the receiver would decrease.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the frequency compensation method of Treadaway with the teaching of Gavin in reducing the size of the inter-packet gap when the system clock frequency of the transmitter is greater than the system clock frequency of the receiver such that said size of said egress inter-packet gap is reduced by deleting idle symbols from an extended inter-packet gap.

The motivation to do so is to a receiver to avoid discarding the active data constituting part of a data packet by discarding the idle bytes of inter-packet gaps instead in order to ensure a correct operation.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's Remarks/Arguments filed on 7/19/2007 with respect to claims 1, 8, 10, 12 and 13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Mew whose telephone number is 571-272-3141. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Kevin Mew KM
Work Group 2616

CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER 9/19/07